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| *www.IowaABD.com* | *Lynn M. Walding, Administrator* |

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|  | e - NEWS |
| *June 22, 2007* | |

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**[I. NATIONAL NEWS.](#I)**

# 1. Philip Morris Gears Up For FDA Regulation

**Using Science, It Tries To Prove Its Products Can Be Lower-Risk**

Anna Wilde Mathews and Vanessa O’Connell  
*Wall Street Journal*  
June 21, 2007

At a research park that's home to several biotech companies, a $350 million facility under construction will soon house hundreds of researchers. But instead of testing lifesaving medicines, these scientists will be focused on a product that kills an estimated 438,000 Americans a year.

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| [Philip Morris research center, rendering] |
|  |
| Philip Morris USA's new research center, rendering |

The facility, due to open in August, is owned by Philip Morris USA, the nation's biggest tobacco company. The [Altria Group](http://online.wsj.com/quotes/main.html?type=djn&symbol=mo) Inc. unit is preparing for a tectonic change -- regulation of tobacco by the Food and Drug Administration. With Democrats in charge of Congress, the long-debated step appears more likely than ever. A Senate bill is expected to clear a key committee next month, and companion legislation has been introduced in the House.

Both bills would give the FDA broad sway over tobacco products, including the power to set product standards, which could include limiting certain ingredients in cigarettes. Tobacco makers, whose products have been largely unregulated, would have to turn over to the agency extensive information about their products.

The bills also dangle a potentially lucrative opportunity. They say that if a new kind of cigarette can be scientifically proven to "significantly reduce harm" to smokers -- and its availability would also benefit the health of "the population as a whole" -- the cigarette's marketing claims may win approval from the FDA.

The legislation, which is backed by longtime tobacco-industry critics Rep. Henry Waxman of California and Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts, has won wide support from public-health advocates. But many advocates warn that the FDA needs to be very careful about allowing any health-related marketing. "We must be extremely wary of claims made by manufacturers," says Kenneth Warner, dean of the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Dr. Warner serves on a Pfizer Inc. advisory board that examines tobacco policy issues, and turns the honorarium over to his university. Pfizer makes the smoking-cessation drug Chantix.

Philip Morris, which is working on a slew of new products it hopes might qualify for FDA-approved health claims, acknowledges it must transform itself into a credible player in the expected scientific debates at the FDA. So the company is trying to emulate an industry already under the agency's purview -- the drug companies.

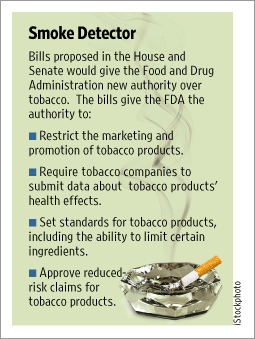
The company has a number of highly engineered products in the works, all of which are designed to possibly reduce tobacco's dangers. Among them: Marlboro Ultra Smooth, a cigarette with a high-technology carbon filter; Accord, which uses a holder to primarily heat, rather than burn, tobacco; and snus, a line of "spit-free" smokeless tobacco products. So far, the products aren't selling well in test markets, Philip Morris confirms, possibly because they aren't being pitched as having any health advantages. Philip Morris hasn't announced when, or if, any of them might be sold nationally.

Analysts say the effort is consuming about half of the estimated $200 million Philip Morris spends on research and development each year. Philip Morris scientists are conducting human studies, presenting results at research conferences and publishing findings in scientific journals such as the Journal of Clinical Pharmacology.

To staff its 450,000-square-foot research center, its biggest investment in two decades, Philip Morris is trying to recruit dozens of physicians, biochemists, and other scientists. And in the same way that pharmaceutical companies pay top researchers to lead drug studies and speak about their findings to regulators and other scientists, the tobacco maker is trying to forge relationships with outside experts who might support Philip Morris's research efforts.

The company faces immense technical hurdles in its quest to develop an FDA-approved lower-risk cigarette. Scientists say there aren't proven measures that would allow Philip Morris to verify that any new kind of tobacco product is less likely to cause cancer or heart disease. Cigarette smoke contains thousands of different components, many of which are known to be toxic. And testing a cigarette is far different from testing a cholesterol drug.

A big problem for Philip Morris may be its reputation. For many years, tobacco companies denied the health risks of their products, quietly funding research that ran counter to scientific opinion. They peddled "light" cigarettes with implied health benefits when, under real-world conditions, the products were generally no safer than standard smokes. As a result, Philip Morris faces many deeply suspicious public-health experts. Many of them believe its efforts are at best, empty public-relations gestures and at worst, manipulative.

"The industry has no credibility with the scientific community and the FDA," says David Kessler, a former FDA commissioner whose efforts in the 1990s to regulate tobacco were struck down by the Supreme Court. If there are to be reduced-risk tobacco standards, he says, "the opinion leaders that are going to develop the science are not going to be the tobacco industry." Dr. Kessler says he has made tobacco-policy speeches in the past and accepted honoraria from pharmaceutical companies that make smoking-cessation products.

While they have been reaching out to outside scientists and medical researchers who can review their own reduced-harm product research, Philip Morris's rivals haven't done as much to ready themselves for regulation. In the eyes of some Wall Street analysts, Philip Morris's efforts are a gamble. Not only might the bills fail to become law, but it might be decades before cigarette makers are able to amass enough scientific data for reduced-risk products to pass muster with the FDA.

Philip Morris is "making a sizeable and substantial investment, particularly versus the outlay of their peers," says David Adelman, Morgan Stanley's tobacco analyst. The risk, he adds, is that the company's newfangled products flop, and "the time, energy and resources have been wasted."

Philip Morris says it has no choice but to pursue its high-risk strategy. Last year, it sold an estimated 183.4 billion cigarettes -- roughly one of every two smoked in America. But per-capita adult cigarette consumption plummeted 19% between 2001 and 2006, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture. "We're doing this because we think it's in the interest of our business," says John R. Nelson, president of operations and technology at Philip Morris USA.

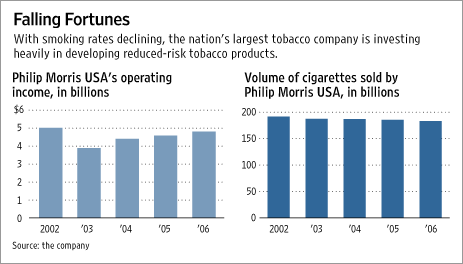
The company began beefing up its research operations around 2000. At first, the work was mostly done through outside contractors. "It was an infrastructure that we had never done, and really didn't exist" at Philip Morris, says Jane Y. Lewis, vice president of product assessment at Philip Morris USA.

One challenge for the company was designing the human studies it would need to satisfy health agencies. Since it would be unethical to force cigarettes on study participants who elect to quit, Philip Morris officials say they pay people fully for their time, even if participants decide to stop smoking halfway through a trial. Because certain results can be blurred by the food subjects eat, company researchers have also begun studies in which smokers stay in a facility for a period of time. That way, Philip Morris researchers can control and monitor subjects' diets.

Another reason to have smokers stay at a facility -- the new research center will have roughly 30 beds, so smokers can spend the night -- is that Philip Morris researchers are able to control the number of cigarettes subjects smoke in a day, Ms. Lewis says. Still, she notes, "we don't control how they smoke." The way smokers puff, or even how they hold a cigarette, can affect how much nicotine and other toxins they consume.

For one prototype of Accord, which uses a battery-operated holder to heat the tobacco, the company ran short-term studies in humans beginning in 2001. It also followed consumers for as long as a year.

In 2002, Philip Morris started an ambitious, yearlong examination of American smokers, the Total Exposure Study, to help answer questions about the effects of cigarettes. The study eventually involved 4,662 people at about 40 sites across the U.S. Scientists gathered data about more than a dozen measures that might reveal the impact of exposure to cigarette smoke.

Smokers had their blood checked for the presence of carbon monoxide and markers that signal heart risk, such as cholesterol and a protein that is a sign of inflammation. Urine was tested for an array of chemicals that might be signs of cancer-causing substances.

These data could eventually serve as a baseline, giving a picture of what measures best highlight the differences between a smoker's body and a nonsmoker's body, company officials say.

Many public-health researchers, while conceding that the research could prove useful, say they're wary of furthering Philip Morris's agenda. They also fear the peddling of a "safer" cigarette could discourage smokers from quitting, ultimately the safest option.

Tobacco companies "have a long and successful track record of subverting people in public health," says David Burns, a professor at the University of California, San Diego, who has testified against tobacco companies in court and says he refused an invitation from Philip Morris to apply for research grants. "We have to be very careful that we maintain both objectivity and independence."

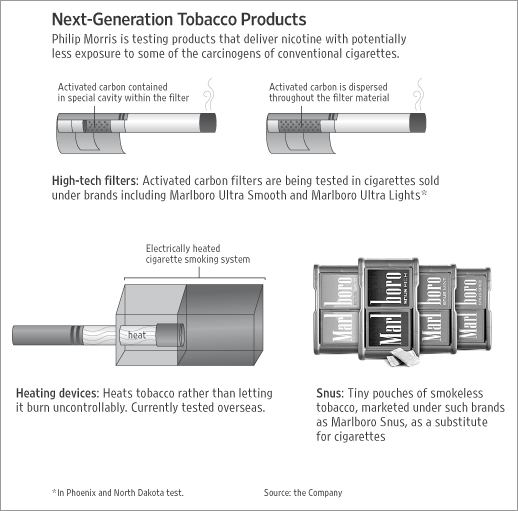
Philip Morris's Mr. Nelson says the company is committed to trying to work with researchers who have opposed it. "Some of our critics have a lot of constructive things to say, some are a little shrill, but we listen, and we talk," he says.

One of the company's efforts -- hiring the Life Sciences Research Office in Bethesda, Md. -- has already sparked controversy. A nonprofit founded to conduct research for the Army, it has done work under contract for the FDA, as well as such projects as weighing the evidence of walnuts' health benefits for a group of walnut growers.

In 2004, Life Sciences began a Philip Morris project that focused on reviewing research from tobacco companies and others related to potential reduced-risk products, with the goal of figuring out what evidence was needed to prove reduced-risk claims. The nonprofit says it reached out to about 1,000 scientists and organizations, seeking recommendations on what questions to address and who might serve on panels that would conduct the review. It also invited scientists to submit research and participate in meetings.

Some tobacco-industry opponents informally boycotted the process, declining invitations to join the Philip Morris-funded scientific panel or speak to the group. "I'm not going to lend my name to the perception and credibility of the company," says Mitch Zeller, an FDA official under Dr. Kessler who says he declined to participate in the nonprofit's work. Mr. Zeller consults for drug maker GlaxoSmithKline PLC on its smoking-cessation products.

Some "of these folks just don't want to participate in company-funded projects," says Philip Morris's Mr. Nelson, adding the organization's work was transparent and independent.

Life Sciences' findings, issued in April, appear to be a win for Philip Morris. The organization's main outside panel concluded that it's possible to generate data to "assess differences in risks of adverse health effects" between tobacco products. It endorsed the idea of reduced-risk claims, arguing that information about potentially safer products is being withheld from the public. The choice may be whether "some good is better than none at all," the report says.

The conclusion clashes with views of a number of public-health researchers, who say the science isn't developed enough to justify reduced-risk claims for tobacco products.

Earlier this month, two University of California-San Francisco researchers published a paper in Tobacco Control, an antitobacco journal, accusing Life Sciences of downplaying or concealing its "true level of involvement" with the tobacco giant. It warned that Life Sciences may not be fully independent, saying that some members of the nonprofit's outside panels have had financial relationships with tobacco companies.

"Anytime you come out with a conclusion that someone doesn't agree with, the whole process is called into question," says Michael Falk, Life Sciences' executive director. Dr. Falk says the nonprofit's process was transparent, and that it didn't find professional or scientific conflicts of interest among the people it allowed on the tobacco review panels. A spokesman for Philip Morris said it is still reviewing the results of Life Sciences' report.

With its new research center a few weeks away from completion, Philip Morris is trying to persuade scientists with a range of backgrounds, including pharmacologists and neurologists, to join the staff of a tobacco company. Mr. Nelson says the facilities will have labs and offices for at least 300 scientists and engineers. "We're still looking around to hire people," he notes.

In August, the company launched a careers Web site intended to attract potential applicants. The site has a link to an artist's rendering of the completed center, alongside photos and testimonials from current employees.

On the Web site, physician Barbara Zedler says that "to work on projects that may potentially reduce the health risks associated with smoking is both challenging and exciting," and the company is "eager for us to succeed." She conducts studies of Philip Morris products on smokers. Another testimonial, from "Kimberly," a molecular biologist, says "going to work for a tobacco company was a total leap for me." But, the text says, she believes her work "has the potential to positively impact public health."

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**2.** **Heineken Launches Premium Light in slim Cans**

*Just-Drinks.com*  
June 19, 2007

Heineken has launched its Premium Light brand in cans in the US.

The brewer’s US arm said today (19 June) that Heineken Premium Light, which will be available nationally in 12oz cans both in a 12-pack and a 24-pack, aims to target consumers who are likely to drink outdoors during the summer months.

Heineken USA brand director Andy Glaser said: "The new 12oz slim can now offers Heineken Premium Light and domestic light beer drinkers the ability to enjoy its deliciously smooth taste on more occasions. Particularly in the summer months, beer drinkers look for ways to enjoy their favourite beverages in outdoor locations that may not allow glass packaging."

This week, the brand will begin its TV, print and online advertising as part of a marketing campaign aimed at making an impact leading up to the 4 July weekend.

The introduction of Heineken Premium Light last year represented the Heineken brand's first major product addition in 133 years. Light beer currently accounts for more than 50% of the total US beer market volume.

Earlier this year, the brewer hailed the launch of Heineken Premium Light in the US as adding around 680,000 hectolitres to volumes. Heineken forecast in February that the brand should see sales this year hit 1m hl in the country.

grapes<http://www.just-drinks.com/article.aspx?ID=90618&lk=dm>

**3. Drinkers ditch Alcopops for Rose Wine**

Anna Willard  
*Reuters*  
June 20, 2007

Tired of swigging alcopops, fed up with the high calories of beer and the high alcohol content of spirits, drinkers around the world are fuelling a boom in rosé wine.

Experts say young British women are leading the trend.

"The girls who were drinking Bacardi Breezer and Smirnoff Ice have matured," said Paul Waller, who works for Carlsberg UK, which buys wine and sells it on to pubs and restaurants.

"People are trying different things. Consumers have got more sophisticated," he said.

Rosé, a light, pinkish colored table wine generally made from red grapes whose skins are removed before the process of fermentation begins, has always been popular in southern France, where many of the best varieties are made.

It has often had an image problem elsewhere but Waller said demand for rosé has risen 30-40 percent in Britain in the last couple of years.

And the boom is not limited to Britain.

Cary Kurz is a salesman for the South African vineyard Distell for North America and has noticed an increase in demand for rosé in the United States and Canada.

"Generally there is a swing towards wine away from beer and spirits," he said.

"Maybe wine is consumed as a healthier product to consumer, lower in alcohol content than spirits and lower in carbohydrates than beer."

According to a study commissioned for the Vinexpo wine fair, rosé will nearly double as a proportion of total wine consumption from 3.64 percent between 2001 and 2005 to 6.68 percent between 2005 and 2010.

That is much faster growth than for red wine, which accounts for around 50 percent of all wine consumption, and for white wine consumption which is expected to stagnate.

Serge Dombierer works for the Chateau de Mauvanne vineyard in the Provence region of southern France.

His vineyard has doubled its production of rosé in the last eight years and it now accounts for 60 percent of all the wine they produce.

He says rosé has an advantage over red or white wines because it can be drunk at any time during the day whereas red is more of an evening drink and white is more for the day.

Its light and fruity taste also mean it is a good replacement for the traditional French aperitif, the pre-dinner drink that is common all over France and can often be a spirit or a fortified wine.

"You can drink less and less in France because of police controls. With spirits you can only have a glass, but with rosé you can have three and you are still okay," he said.

grapes<http://www.reuters.com/article/lifestyleMolt/idUSL2028911820070620?sp=true>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**4.** **Shaken and Stirred: For Liquor Campaigns, the Web's the Thing**

Stuart Elliott  
*New York Times*  
June 22, 2007

To introduce Reyka, an Icelandic vodka, William Grant & Sons is running a quirky campaign with a wit as dry as a well-made martini. There are erupting volcanoes, enigmatic puffins, "fun facts" about Iceland and comely women dressed for the cold rather than as they typically appear in liquor ads.

But don't look for the Reyka campaign in traditional media like newspapers, magazines or even television. Executives at Grant decided that the ads, by Special Ops Media in New York, would run online only, on a dedicated Web site (<www.reykavodka.com>) as well as on sites like nerve.com, theonion.com and thrillist.com.

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| http://graphics8.nytimes.com/images/2007/06/22/business/22adco.600.jpg |
| For Seagram’s Gin and Juice product line, Pernod Ricard introduced a campaign carrying the theme “What do you bring to the party?” |

"The category is so crowded, we really wanted to do something that would set us apart from all the other vodkas," said Elwyn Gladstone, new-brand marketing director at Grant in New York.

"Most importantly, we think our target consumer, 25 to 35 years old, is on the Web much more than on TV or in print," he added.

Few alcoholic beverages are forgoing the traditional media altogether. In some instances, turning up the ad volume online has proved problematic, as Anheuser-Busch discovered with bud.tv, a Web site for Budweiser and Bud Light beers that has fallen far short of expectations since its introduction in February.

And critics of the tactics that marketers use to sell liquor and beer are worried that the Internet makes it easier for consumers under the legal drinking age to be exposed to pitches for alcoholic beverages.

"It's troublesome, given that the online world is frequently traveled by underage young people," said George A. Hacker, director for the Alcohol Policies Project at the Center for Science in the Public Interest, an advocacy organization in Washington.

"When you have a liquor ad on TV, there's a chance a parent can come in and turn off the set before the youngster sees the commercial," Mr. Hacker said. "Online, with kids going from one screen to another at blazing fast speed, they can hide the liquor screen they're watching behind five others."

Still, marketers of alcoholic beverages are joining a lengthening list of purveyors of consumer products that are devoting more of their ad budgets to digital media.

For example, in the first quarter of 2007, according to data from the Nielsen/NetRatings Ad Relevance service, Fortune Brands - the seller of familiar spirits like Jim Beam bourbon and Canadian Club whiskey - spent $442,200 in online media, an increase of 268.2 percent from the $120,100 spent during the same period a year ago.

Online ad spending by Diageo, which owns brands like Smirnoff vodka and Johnnie Walker Scotch whiskey, increased 285.2 percent in the same time frame, the data showed, to $234,200 from $60,800.

And companies like Pernod Ricard, which did not spend enough in online media to be ranked among the leaders in the first quarter last year, stepped up their commitments enough to join the top 10 this year.

"Traditional advertising is still part of the mix, but we want to make a major transition from just talking to our consumers to creating a two-way dialogue," said Wayne Hartunian, global brand director for Seagram's Gin at Pernod Ricard USA in Purchase, N.Y.

For the Seagram's Gin and Juice product line, Pernod Ricard introduced a campaign carrying the theme "What do you bring to the party?," which is meant to appeal to drinkers ages 21 to 29, a segment he described as "a highly social group."

The centerpiece of the campaign is a special Web site (whatdoyoubringtotheparty.com) that accepts photographs from consumers, some of which will be posted in an online "Party Gallery." The campaign is created by Brand Architecture International in New York, part of the TBWA Worldwide unit of the Omnicom Group.

One big advantage of advertising online, Mr. Hartunian said, is a good reading of who is seeing the spot and how they behave before and after they view it.

"You get data - traffic to the site, where the traffic is coming from, the amount of time people spend on the site, which sections of the site they go to - and you can adjust as you go along," he added.

In some instances, liquor and beer marketers are seeking consumers on large, mainstream Web sites rather than trying to draw them to branded sites that may be more difficult for computer users to find.

For example, another Pernod Ricard brand, Chivas Regal Scotch whiskey, signed an agreement with the MSN Web site (msn.com) operated by the Microsoft Corporation, to sponsor a broadband video channel on travel and adventure with programming produced by TBA Global Events, a marketing agency in Woodland Hills, Calif.

The Chivas Regal channel (thisisthelife.msn.com) will appear under the title "This Is the Life, Inspired by Chivas Regal," echoing the brand's mainstream campaign theme, "This is the Chivas life." It is part of a deal between MSN and Reveille, the company that produces TV series like "The Office" and "Ugly Betty" and will feature reports on a search for consumers to become globe-trotting "Chivas Life Ambassadors."

"This is a great way to start our Internet marketing activities," said Craig Johnson, Chivas brand director at Pernod Ricard USA.

"An iconic brand like Chivas needs to reimagine itself," he added, "and this adds more contemporary values for the brand."

Chris Monaco, chief executive at Good Life Entertainment in Los Angeles, the entertainment marketing agency of record for Pernod Ricard USA, said the campaign would follow the rules for advertising liquor that are administered by the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States.

Jason Klein, co-chief executive at Special Ops Media, the Reyka agency, said, "There are restrictions we follow," among them that "we can't buy ads on sites with a certain percentage of visitors below age 21."

Mr. Hacker, the critic of marketing for alcoholic beverages, is not mollified by most steps the companies and agencies are taking. Citing the procedures for validating the ages of visitors to liquor Web sites, he said: "It's more or less a challenge for young people to come on. I put totally fictitious birth days into the age-verification processes."

Mr. Hacker did, however, concede that the "wry" humor of the Reyka Web site "was such that it wasn't particularly adolescent - although the fact the age-verification process is so half-baked is a problem."

Hmmmm. Perhaps the Web sites can screen computer users not by asking them to enter the month, day and year they were born but rather to identify quotations from the works of Woody Allen, Robert Benchley, Dorothy Parker and David Sedaris.

grapes<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/22/business/media/22adcol.html?em&ex=1182657600&en=4a31e05e59cedb39&ei=5087%0A>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**5.** **Sex, TV and Jack Daniels**  
**Consumer group complains that the sponsor of the series 'Mad Men,' about an ad agency in 1960, is violating liquor industry standards.**

Lynn Smith  
*Los Angeles Times*June 21, 2007

A new television series set in a New York advertising agency in 1960 has drawn complaints from a consumer group, alleging that the show's sponsor — Jack Daniels — is violating liquor industry standards by mixing sex, irresponsible behavior and alcohol.

Trailers from AMC's period drama "Mad Men," scheduled to premiere July 19, appear on its website along with Jack Daniels promotions.

Commercial Alert filed a formal complaint Wednesday with the Distilled Spirits Council of the United States alleging that the sponsorship crosses a line that generally precludes liquor advertising in shows with "depictions of overt sexual activity," lewd images or language, irresponsible drinking and intoxication.

The complaint was based on a clip that shows an ad exec climbing into bed with his girlfriend, as well as reports that Jack Daniels will be integrated into the show's scenes, said Robert Weissman, managing director of the Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization.

"If what's been reported is correct, Jack Daniels will not be in a bit part; Jack Daniels will be a star of the series," he said.

The group earlier called for AMC to cancel the series. "We still think the show should be canceled," Weissman said. But given that the show has already been produced, the group is taking its protests through other avenues: In addition to the formal complaint, the nonprofit is also urging public service announcements about alcohol abuse before, during and after each show.

In 1996, the liquor industry dropped a 48-year-old voluntary ban on broadcast advertising. Since then, the commercial landscape has changed dramatically. According to the alcohol industry trade group, liquor ads air on dozens of cable channels and more than 500 network affiliate channels. Commercial Alert's complaint is under review by the trade group's board, which judges complaints and offers suggestions generally followed by members on a voluntary basis.

Matthew Weiner, creator and executive producer of "Mad Men," said the drinking in the show is not advocacy.

"I'm trying to tell a story about that time. It's not done for glamour," he said. In that era, "People drank more and all the time. They drank in their cars, at work, in the morning at work."

Though Jack Daniels will be shown in scenes, he said, "I have never altered the content and will not alter content" to promote the brand. "I'm not in the advertising business," he said.

Phil Lynch, vice president of corporate communications for Brown-Forman, parent company of Jack Daniels, said AMC had offered to place three references to Jack Daniels in the 13-week run of the show as a gift for its general advertising commitment on the network. So far, though, he said, he hasn't seen any of the scenes. "We're confident we're not violating the code at all," he said.

AMC executives were not available for comment.

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/tv/la-et-jackdaniels21jun21,1,2834483.story?coll=la-headlines-entnews&track=crosspromo>

**II.** **INTERNATIONAL NEWS.**

**6. French wine-Growers go Guerrilla**

Caroline Wyatt  
*BBC*  
June 17, 2007

A shadowy group in France has issued the French government with an unusual ultimatum: raise the price of wine or blood will flow.

The group's name is the Crav, which stands for nothing more threatening than the Union for Viticultural Action in the Languedoc region in the south.

The Crav's deadline to the government runs out this weekend, which marks exactly 100 years since wine-makers in the region led their last revolt.

That ended with the French army shooting dead six demonstrators.

No wine-maker will publicly admit to being part of Crav but many sympathise with their demands, if not with their methods.

**Driven to despair**

Trimming the vines in the 17 hectares of vineyard which used to support his family, wine-grower Francois Thiebaud is in despair because of plummeting wine prices.

|  |
| --- |
| Francois Thiebaud |
| Some [growers] have even killed themselves because they couldn't feed their families on the money they earn |

He says that he and many other wine-makers in this region are now fighting for survival:

"We're working at a loss," he tells me.

"We've lost between 40 and 50% of our income because of falling prices and the big cut taken by the middle-men.

"I can only afford to carry on working in the vineyards because my wife has another job.

"And some wine-makers have to claim social security benefits, because they earn so little that they can't feed their families.

"Some have even killed themselves because they couldn't feed their families on the money they earn."

Such frustration has now boiled over into the threats of violence by the Crav, made in a video message sent to France's new President, Nicolas Sarkozy.

**Shots fired**

In the video - shot in a secret location late at night - seven wine-makers, their faces hidden by black balaclavas, read out the spine-chilling warning that "blood will flow" if Nicolas Sarkozy does not act fast to raise the price of wine.

The group has proved that it is prepared to use violence to achieve its aims.

Already, several local supermarkets selling foreign wines have been attacked with small explosive devices, with others graffitied with the Crav's initials.

The group has also shot at and hijacked at least one lorry containing wine from abroad - and the fear is that the attacks could escalate unless the government responds to the group's demands, which it so far has not.

Jean-Francois Picquemal runs one of the supermarkets that was graffitied, even though he says it only sells wine from the area.

"There've been similar attacks throughout the region, and this was one of the nicer ones," he says.

"I think the wine-makers are upset with the middle-men who don't pay them enough for their wine.

"But at least this was only graffiti - it wasn't too bad. I think all this might get worse.

"I know a lot of wine makers, I'm from this region, and it's a very difficult situation for them."

**The new 'Resistance'**

France 3 television journalist Emilien Jubineau was taken in the darkest hours of the night to a remote location to witness the Crav's threatening video message being made.

He believ

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| --- |
| Vineyard in Languedoc |
| France's famed wine industry is feeling pressure from foreign producers |

es the group is in deadly earnest.

"It's not that they're necessarily dangerous people but these wine makers are extremely angry - they're desperate," he believes.

"The Crav may have done things that people might condemn but they've been very careful not to injure anyone so far.

"Their attacks have sent a very strong signal: what they want is for the government to talk to them about a real solution."

**Sympathy with the cause**

The solution Brussels has put forward is for producers to grub up 200,000 hectares of wine - much of it in the Languedoc - because the region is producing much more wine than it can sell in a fiercely competitive global market.

Wine-makers in the region are not being heard so they feel they have to speak louder

But the Crav say they will fight that idea every step of the way - just as the French Resistance in the south once fought the Nazis.

And even wine-makers not involved with the group say they share many of its frustrations, even if they do not agree with the threat of violence.

Jean-Marc Ribet of Chateau de la Vernede, which produces high-quality wine mainly for the export market, says supermarkets and restaurants are making huge profits at wine-producers' expense, often buying wine at one euro (£0.67; $1.33) a litre and selling it on for 15 euros a litre.

"Normally, the Crav would not exist if people were being heard, but wine-makers in the region are not being heard so they feel they have to speak louder so that the government listens."

grapes<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/6759953.stm>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**7.** **Vinexpo opens with chaos for South Africa**

Jane Anson  
*Bordeaux*  
June 18, 2007

Vinexpo opened yesterday amid chaos for the South African contingent, whose entire delivery of sample wines had been stopped on the French Belgian border.

Nearly 2,000 bottles for Wines of South Africa (WOSA), Fosters, Gallo, Distel and Cape Legends were stopped as they made their way from Antwerp to Bordeaux. It is unlikely that the shipment will be released before the end of the trade fair.

'This makes the whole exhibition a complete waste of time and money,' Dalene Styen of WOSA told decanter.com.

Styen said it was still unclear exactly why the wines had been stopped and according to WOSA, three different explanations had been given to them.

Following the breakdown of air conditioning breakdown in 2003, Styan said it 'feels right now like there is always some problem at Vinexpo.'

The official opening ceremony, held this morning, was attended by the new French agricultural minister, Christine Lagarde, and Timothy Tong, Hong Kong's Commissioner of Customs and Excise, reflecting the growing importance of the Asian market. Both gave positive news about rises in sales and consumption.

'At Vinexpo 2005, French wines had experienced six years of falling export sales,' said Lagarde, who took over from former agricultural minister Dominique Bussereau a month ago. '2006 saw a reversal of that trend; with exports up 11.4%, and export profits currently standing at ?7.7b, equivalent to 150 Airbuses.'

Tong had similarly positive figures, saying that wine consumption in China had grown, from 2001 to 2005, 3.55m to 4.36 hectolitres. The trend is set to continue, reaching 5.89m hectolitres by 2010.

'Today, imported wines account for just 5.6% of that figure, giving a huge potential for growth,' he said.

Since Hong Kong reduced its import duties on wine from 80 to 40% in February 2007, provisional figures have shown a rise of 30% in sales. Tong also said that he would be granting duty exemptions on all wines to be imported for samples during the Vinexpo 2008 trade fair in Hong Kong.

This year's Bordeaux show covers 41,000 square metres, the biggest since it started in 1981 with 6,885 square metres. Local hotels and restaurants are preparing to cash in on the 2,400 exhibitors and 45,000 visitors from 144 different countries.

<http://www.decanter.com/news/124952.html?aff=rss>

grapes  
  
  
  
  
**8.** **Minister says France must Embrace wine Competition**

Anna Willard   
*Reuters*  
June 18, 2007

The French wine industry must adapt to fierce new world competition but France will oppose any European Union reform plans that do not work in its favour, Farm Minister Christine Lagarde said on Monday.

Lagarde urged producers to simplify their methods to make French wine more accessible to average drinkers and see off the threat from newer producers such as the United States, Australia, South Africa, Argentina or Chile.

"The moment is now or never to launch ourselves into the race of globalisation, to accept the constraints so that we can better profit from the opportunities," she said at the opening of Vinexpo, the world's largest wine fair.

"If we don't do it, others will ... Let's not let others reap the harvest in our place."

The French wine industry is suffering because domestic wine consumption per head has fallen to about 55 litres annually from 100 litres in 1970.

It is also struggling to compete with the newer producing countries which have less complicated wine classification systems and better marketing.

France's top-end wine producers are having successful sales abroad after an exceptional year in 2005, but many small middle- or low-end producers are selling their wine at a loss.

One southern group of winemakers, the CRAV, has threatened violent action if French President Nicolas Sarkozy does not take steps to support the wine industry against foreign competition.

**Save our Vines**

The European Commission is expected to announce modest changes to EU wine rules at the beginning of next month, with the aim of making the region's industry more competitive and getting rid of huge wine surpluses.

Lagarde said the EU's wine system needed to be reformed, but that France would oppose any plans it did not like. It will also unveil a series of counter proposals, she said.

"We will not accept propositions made by the Commission on July 4 if they are not in our interests," she said.

"In particular, we will not budge on maintaining plantation rights, nor on the conservation of market management measures. And we will oppose the false idea of massive vine destruction."

The Commission is expected to propose that 200,000 hectares of vines are destroyed out of the EU's existing 3.4 million hectares, with farmers offered cash incentives for "grubbing up" some of their vines or leaving the industry altogether. The EU's ban on planting new vines would meanwhile be extended.

Lagarde said French counter proposals would include adapting market rules, simplifying labelling, an ambitious EU wine promotion and defending geographic identification.

"Let's go and conquer these far-off countries, with our sails full, rather than sinking our own ship," she said.

grapes<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/rtrs/20070618/twl-uk-france-wine-bd5ae06.html>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**9.** **Whisky Industry Raises Glass to Europe**

Paul Rogerson  
*The Herald*  
June 20, 2007  
  
Scotland's £1bn whisky industry yesterday welcomed tighter rules on the production and labelling of the spirit in the European Union, claiming they will bolster exports and protect jobs.

Members of the European Parliament approved an updated and clearer legal definition of whisky, designed to help distillers tackle labelling which they have criticised as unfair and misleading.

The rules state that whisky cannot be flavoured or sweetened. They also update the protection of the geographical indication "Scotch whisky" in line with World Trade Organisation rules.

Nick Soper, the Scotch Whisky Association's European affairs director, said: "Improved EU protection for the traditional way of making Scotch whisky is a significant step forward. It will be easier to protect Scotch from unfair practices, supporting export success and the jobs that depend on that continuing success."

Whisky and other spirits drinks have been defined in EU law since 1989, but a spokesman for the SWA said the old rules proved difficult to interpret and appeared to offer loopholes. The association has pursued a string of court cases to protect the Scotch whisky brand. An example included taking action against a French producer who added sugar to whisky to sweeten it and sold the resulting product as whisky.

The spokesman said that the industry will now look at how best to bring forward national rules on Scotch whisky branding and labelling to the European level. This process will include talks on protecting the Gaelic language version of Scotch whisky - uisge-beatha Albannach - as a distinctive brand.

Yesterday's vote on spirit drinks also has important implications for vodka producers, in that those making the spirit from more than just potatoes or cereals will in future have to identify the extra ingredients on the label. The decision affects about one-third of the UK's vodka production, which includes molasses in the mix.

The UK is the second-biggest producer of vodka in Europe and the new labelling requirement, if endorsed by ministers, would mostly affect supermarkets' own-label vodka and other budget brands made from sugar beet.

The compromise avoids a tougher demand from Polish and Scandinavian vodka producers that the drink should only be called "vodka" when made from potatoes and cereals.

Labour MEP Linda McAvan, who brokered the deal, explained: "Only vodka made from either potatoes or cereals can simply be called vodka.

"All other vodkas will have to be labelled - but all European vodka producers will be able to keep their products on the market."

The European Vodka Alliance welcomed the compromise, which allows vodka to be made from any agricultural raw material as long as manufacturers comply with the need to stipulate on the label all the raw materials other than potatoes or cereals.

EVA spokesman Chris Scott Wilson said: "The Alliance has supported this compromise from the start. We hope now that EU governments will endorse the European Parliament vote and that this issue can be resolved once and for all."

The compromise on vodka was welcomed by Diageo, Europe's biggest spirits company, whose chief executive Paul Walsh had described efforts by some countries to tighten the rules as "protectionism".

The deal will be put to EU ministers for a final vote at the end of the month.

<http://www.theherald.co.uk/business/news/display.var.1483322.0.0.php>

[**III. IOWA NEWS.**](#II)

**10. Petition seeks to shut down Razamatazz   
City Council to hear about alleged problems with the bar tonight; state meeting is scheduled for Monday**

Elizabeth Owens  
*Des Moines Register*  
June 19, 2007

An Urbandale bar with a somewhat troubled past is the subject of a petition seeking its closure and an administrative hearing.

Urbandale resident Chris Hanson, 31, plans to bring the petition with 128 signatures to tonight's City Council meeting. Residents are asking the city to close Razamatazz Grill & Bar, 2301 Rocklyn Drive.

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| http://cmsimg.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcsi.dll/bilde?Site=D2&Date=20070619&Category=NEWS&ArtNo=706190344&Ref=AR&Profile=1001&maxw=264 |
| Razamatazz, a bar along Hickman and Rocklyn Drive in Urbandale, is the target of a petition that the City Council is scheduled to hear tonight. Police calls, noise and violence are cited in the petition effort. |

A hearing with the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division, scheduled at the Iowa Department of Public Safety's request, will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday. The hearing is to determine whether there have been violations of state code and city ordinance and, if so, the appropriate action, which could include revocation of the liquor license.

Urbandale police and fire officials say Razamatazz is the most problematic bar in the city.

But bar manager Scott Twaddle said his bar isn't any more trouble than any other big and busy bar.

"You get 160 people with a little alcohol and once in a while you're going to have someone who acts out of line," Twaddle said.

Hanson, the author of the petition, lives in and is manager of the Rocklyn Court Apartments, which are at 6820 Holcomb Ave. and 2401 Rocklyn Drive, and house about 200 residents.

Hanson said in the petition the bar has been the subject of dozens of police calls in the past year regarding noise and violence.

"In general, it's a nuisance," Hanson said.

Statistics provided by the Urbandale Police Department show that from Jan. 1, 2006, to June 12, 2007, police have responded to 23 disturbing the peace and quiet calls at Razamatazz, plus 15 calls about fights and six assaults.

Urbandale Fire Chief Jerry Holt also has made his concerns known through a letter he wrote in March to the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division following what he described as egregious incidents of overcrowding at the bar.

"Our concern with any place that has more people than they're allowed to have is the panic of people trying to get out, should something happen, could cause injuries or even deaths," Holt said.

His records show that since January 2006, the bar's management has been cited four times, twice each year, for overcrowding.

The most serious of the overcrowding incidents was in January 2006 when the bar was found to house more than double its capacity at that time of 124.

Changes in the interior led to the capacity being bumped up to 160, Holt said, but the bar exceeded that number in February with 181 people and in March with 233. Spot checks since the incident on March 11 have shown the bar to be under capacity, Holt said.

He said concern about the overcrowding increased when, during the two incidents this year, the Urbandale fire marshal was allegedly told by bar security staff that they were instructed by bar management to violate the occupancy level.

Twaddle disagrees that the bar was overcrowded and that security was told to go over capacity.

"We did not knowingly allow the place to be over-occupied," Twaddle said.

He said the security officers will be at the June 25 hearing to say just that.

Razamatazz's practice is to have security officers at the door with a counter on the weekends, Twaddle said.

Hanson's petition will be brought forth during the citizen's forum of tonight's meeting, which is at 7 at City Hall, 3600 86th St. No action will be taken on the petition, but Mayor Bob Andeweg said members will listen and try to address questions Hanson may have.

In April 2001, the Urbandale City Council denied Razamatazz's renewal liquor license application, citing numerous violations.

The Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division ultimately reversed the city's decision in February 2002.

Razamatazz's current liquor license is scheduled for renewal in September. In his letter to the Alcoholic Beverages Division, Holt said the violations are a serious issue and cannot wait until September.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070619/NEWS/706190344/1001/NEWS>

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**11.** **Urbandale Residents ask Council to shut Down Bar**

Elizabeth Owens  
*Des Moines Register*  
June 20, 2007

A handful of people stood up before the Urbandale City Council Tuesday to ask that a bar in their neighborhood be shut down.

Their voices were joined by a petition signed by 128 people who want to see Razamatazz Grill & Bar, 2301 Rocklyn Drive, close.

The petition and people at the meeting cited numerous complaints, including noise, violence and trash.

Urbandale police and fire officials have said the bar is the most problematic in the city.

The council did not take action, but Mayor Bob Andeweg said the complaints are not going unaddressed.

Razamatazz manager Scott Twaddle attended the meeting, but didn't speak.

Twaddle said in an interview after the meeting he disagrees that noise at Razamatazz is a problem. "I think as far as hearing it outside," he said, "a car or motorcycle driving down the road is going to be louder than that."

Those at the meeting complained Razamatazz isn't the type of establishment that belongs in their neighborhood.

"I have nothing against a restaurant that serves alcohol or even stays open late," said Chris Hanson, the manager of Rocklyn Court Apartments, 6820 Holcomb Ave. and 2401 Rocklyn Drive, and the author of the petition. "It's the lack of control, really, that it comes down to."

Next up for Razamatazz is a hearing at 10:30 a.m. Monday with the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division. The hearing is to determine whether management has knowingly exceeded the bar's posted occupancy, and, if so, the appropriate action, which could include revocation of the liquor license.

grapes<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070620/NEWS/706200376/1001/NEWS>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**12.** **Farmer Killed by Drunk Driver in Tractor Crash**

*Associated Press*  
June 18, 2007

A driving instructor who farmed at night was killed when his tractor was struck from behind by sports utility vehicle, which police say was driven by a drunken driver.

Lance Ropte, 58, of Humboldt, was killed in the accident, which happened about 10:30 p.m. Thursday on a road just north of Badger, the Iowa State Patrol said.

Ropte was thrown from the tractor and pronounced dead at the scene, the patrol said.

The driver of the SUV, Georgia Christianson, 40, of Dakota City, was charged with drunken driving and taken to the Webster County jail.

David Ropte, 29, said his father, a retired Iowa Air National Guardsman, was on his way home from a Badger grain elevator at the time of the accident.

He said it was not unusual for his father, who worked as a driving instructor at Smithway Motor Xpress in Fort Dodge, to make late-night trips to the grain elevator.

Christianson was released to the Department of Correctional Services after a court hearing Friday. A preliminary hearing has been scheduled for June 29.

grapes<http://www.thehawkeye.com/Story/k0124_BC_IA_IowaToday_06_16_1167>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**13.** **Retailers say they Foot Bill With New Keg Law**   
**Keg Sellers Must Pay For Registration Stickers**

*KCCI TV*  
June 19, 2007

A new statewide keg registration law soon goes into effect, but some retailers are not happy that they are stuck footing the bill.

Registration stickers will soon be required for all beer kegs sold in Iowa.

For retailers in Story County, the law will be no different than the county ordinance already on the books.

"Once we got used to it, it's been a very smooth process, as far as customers and us are concerned," said Rich Parizek of the Keg Shop.

In addition to the stickers, retailers are required to keep a logbook with information about the person buying the keg.

Parizek said a big selling point with the countywide ordinance was that retailers didn't incur any of the cost.

That won't be the case with the new statewide rules.

"The cost was kind of a surprise knowing that the county provided free-of-charge stickers," Parizek said.

Retailers will pay $5 for a booklet of 25 stickers under the state law.

Lynn Walding with the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division said the fee will pay for the processing and distribution of the stickers.

"What the Legislature authorized was for the department to fund the cost of implementing the system by the purchase of the stickers themselves," Walding said.

Officials said the electronic system is expected to keep those costs to a minimum and make it easier for retailers to order the stickers.

Law enforcement will be able to go online and easily trace a keg found in the possession of a minor.

"In the end, it's intended to be a deterrent from adults providing alcohol to minors," Walding said.

Parizek said he absolutely supports the keg registration law, he just questions the additional cost.

"I just think the state should burden that cost instead of the business," Parizek said.

Walding said most businesses will pass that cost along to its customers. He said it makes more sense for the buyer to incur those costs instead of taxpayers across the state.

grapes<http://www.kcci.com/news/13532688/detail.html>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**14.** **Council bans Fight Night**

Kelli Sutterman   
*Daily Iowan*June 20, 2007

The Iowa City City Council, by a unanimous vote, banned amateur fighting Tuesday night after a heated meeting that also put the 21-ordinance on the November ballot.

Representatives in support of amateur fighting included three amateur fighters and Monty Cox, the owner of the Union Bar, which has been hosting weekly fight nights every Wednesday.

The discussion on whether to ban mixed martial arts fighting was first debated at the City Council's June 4 work session and again at the council's last formal meeting, June 5, when councilors voiced concern about holding the sport in an environment that serves alcohol.

"Sports? Bars? That's part of sports," Cox said. "I know they don't do it inside of football games, but I'm pretty sure they do do it outside of the stadium."

Although several councilors said they supported the sport itself, they did not think that it should occur in Iowa City without state regulation.

"The state does not regulate amateur fighting," said Mayor Ross Wilburn. "And personally, I'm not sure that's a liability the city is willing to take on."

Local amateur fighter Chris Janda urged the council to consider Iowa City as a safe haven for fighters to compete.

"People look down on us for what we do, but this is what I do. I'm a fighter but I'm also a student," said Janda. "I'm a senior biochemistry major, and my parents fully support me in this sport. By taking this away, it really scares me that we'll get hurt somewhere else."

Cox also insisted that fighting at the Union was a good place for amateurs to practice and compete before moving on to other venues where the fighting is more intense.

"We take out some of the more dangerous rules, we shorten the time limits, and we have a professional referee to test and protect new fighters," Cox said. "We're not opposed to Brethalyzing people, or bringing down an officer to keep people safe. There are not fights in the street, there are not problems with the event, but we'll do whatever it takes to keep the event."

But ultimately, Cox and the fighters were unable to save local amateur fighting in Iowa City.

"I don't see the connection with this and bars," said City Councilor Bob Elliott. "And I do not want the city of Iowa City to have to regulate this."

In other business, the City Council also decided to put a citizen-prompted 21-ordinance to public vote in November. The petition was presented to the council, but the council decided all citizens would have a voice on the highly controversial issue.

Councilor Mike O'Donnell agreed that the 21-ordinance is an issue that must be discussed by the people, not the council.

"I haven't supported that 21-issue and in my mind it will create more people on the road and more house parties," he said.

"Over the years we've had so much conversation," said Councilor Dee Vanderhoef. "And it's time that the community tells us what they want for this city."

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**15.** **Iowa City '21' law to Appear on Nov. 6 Ballot**

Kelysey Beltramea  
*Des Moines Register*  
June 20, 2007

The Iowa City City Council voted Tuesday night to allow the community to decide whether city drinking establishments should be 21-only.

The council voted against implementing an ordinance that would prohibit anyone younger than 21 from entering a liquor establishment after 10 p.m. in favor of allowing the measure to appear on the Nov. 6 ballot.

“I have consistently said I support 21,” Councilor Dee Vanderhoef said. “But its time for the people to tell us what they think is best for this community.”

The Committee for Healthy Choices spurred the action after submitting a petition that carried more than 3,000 signatures.

Jim Clayton, a member of the committee and former co-chairman of the Stepping Up Project, said he had hoped the council would approve the ordinance outright, instead of putting it in the hands of voters.

“That many signatures represents a substantial number of voters,” Clayton said. “That’s one of the reasons we elect our city council members — to lead, not follow.”

Though Tuesday’s vote disappointed Clayton, he said he is “quite confident” the ordinance will pass on Nov. 6.

Atul Nakhasi, a member of the governmental relations committee for the University of Iowa’s student government, said he would be leading a student initiative to fight otherwise. He said he feels that a decrease in the bar entry age would result in an increase of unregulated house parties.

“There’s a check system within the bars downtown,” he said, noting ID verification, bouncers, and regular police inspections. “If I was a parent, I’d rather have my kids downtown.”

A proposed 21-ordinance has been on the council’s agenda for a vote three times in the last four years, beginning in 2003 when community members urged the city to banish those under 21 after 10 p.m. Supporters fell short of their objective when councilors instead created a 19-ordinance. In November 2004, the council again chose a 19-ordinance over a change to 21.  
  
<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070620/NEWS/70620079/-1/archive>

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**16.** **Ankeny to host first Midwest wine Competition**

*Des Moines Register*June 20, 2007

Commercial wineries from 11 Midwest states have been invited to participate in the first Mid-American Wine Competition.

The event will be held July 14 and 15 at Des Moines Area Community College’s Ankeny campus in conjunction with Swine, a new festival that will showcase Iowa chefs, wineries and pork producers.

The competition will be open only to commercial wineries of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky.

The chief judge for the Mid-American Wine Competition will be noted wine expert and veteran wine judge, Doug Frost of Kansas City.

Frost is one of the few people in the world to earn the title of both Master of Wine and Master Sommelier.

Frost has told organizers that while many American wine competitions are open to the wines of the Midwest, no competition focuses primarily on these wines.

The competition director will be Bob Foster, founder and first director of the San Diego National Competition. Foster has been a wine judge and competition director for over 25 years and also directs the Temecula Valley Wine Competition in California.

Dr. Murli Dharmadhikari, Iowa State University Extension enologist will be a technical adviser to the competition.

The judging panel will also include Dr. Richard Peterson, famed California winemaker and one of the most respected of the California wine judges.

For Peterson coming to judge in Iowa brings him full circle. He was born and raised in Iowa. He made his first wine from Concord grapes on the family farm near the location of the wine competition.

He is also a long time wine judge for the Missouri State Fair Wine Competition and the Jefferson Cup Wine Competition held each year in Kansas City.

All bonded wineries in the Midwest region have been invited to enter.

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**17.** **Fire chief Charged for Letting sons Drink at Event**   
**Windsor Heights official accused of letting 2 sons drink beer**

Frank Vinluan  
*Des Moines Register*June 21, 2007

Windsor Heights Fire Chief Tom Milewski last week allegedly let his underage sons into Clive After 5 and now faces charges of providing alcohol to minors, authorities said Wednesday.

Clive police said Milewski, 48, also faces a harassment charge stemming from Friday's incident. A warrant was issued Tuesday for Milewski. He turned himself in to police Tuesday afternoon and was released after posting bond.

Clive Police Sgt. Terry Brauch said Milewski's sons, 17 and 15, do not face any charges. Providing alcohol to a minor is a serious misdemeanor. Third-degree harassment is a simple misdemeanor. Court records show no other incidents under Milewski's name.

Clive After 5 is an outdoor event featuring musical performances. It is held at Linan Park every Friday evening during the summer. Beer is served in a fenced area open only to those 21 or older. Clive police say Milewski let his two sons into the restricted area. Witnesses noticed Milewski providing beer to his sons.

Officers working at the event were told that minors were in the fenced area and they directed the boys to leave. The officers were later told that the minors had been drinking beer and the beer was provided by their father.

Milewski did not return telephone calls seeking comment.

Brauch said Milewski was not intoxicated and he was not belligerent to police. He does not know how much beer Milewski's sons drank. The harassment charge comes from comments Milewski allegedly made to Clive firefighters who were at Clive After 5.

"It was things said to members of the (Clive) fire department after his kids were kicked out," Brauch said.

Brauch declined to elaborate on what Milewski said.

Milewski started as Windsor Heights fire chief on Dec. 4, 2006, after working in the fire department of Williamsburg, Ohio, for seven years. His salary is $65,000. The boys who were with Milewski at Linan Park are his sons from a previous marriage. They live with their mother in Kentucky. Milewski also has three elementary-school-age stepchildren with his present wife.

Windsor Heights City Administrator Marketa Oliver acknowledged that Milewski is facing police charges but declined to comment on his job status because the issue is a personnel matter. She said the city's fire and emergency medical services will continue without interruption.

<http://desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20070621/NEWS05/706210347/1001/NEWS>

**IV.** **OTHER STATE NEWS.**

**18. Monroeville Pastors decry Allowing hard Liquor Sales (Alabama)**

Connie Baggett  
*Press Register*  
June 18, 2007  
  
The sale of hard liquor is on its way to this city, and many preachers condemn it as another step in a steady decline that could lead to bars and lewd nightclub entertainment.

Two years after wine and beer sales became legal in this community for the first time since Prohibition, City Council members angered a group of local clergymen last week when they told them that they had decided to allow what the ministers believed would always be banned: private package stores.

"The city is not better off," said the Rev. Gary Miller, pastor of First Baptist Church of Monroeville. "I was opposed to legalizing sales before, and I can see the negative impacts. ... I just say let's stop before the next step is bars and lounges and -- Lord forbid -- nude dancing. Where's it all going to end?"

The alcohol ordinance still bans lounges and bars, and council members said they have no plans to allow nude dancing clubs.

For decades, Monroeville remained a dry city in a dry county where alcohol possession was legal, but sales were not. Citizens regularly drove across county lines to purchase alcohol in wet counties, and traffic records show the dry county saw as many or more alcohol-related driving citations as its wet neighbors.

Of Alabama's 67 counties, 26 remain dry. In those counties, 16 cities have voted to allow alcohol sales.

Many Monroeville residents said the problems of alcohol abuse were already in the town, but the town received no tax revenue to help deal with them.

In 2005, voters approved a referendum allowing alcohol sales in the city and granting the City Council the authority to regulate such sales. Before the election, council members drafted and advertised the regulating ordinance they said they would use if the referendum passed.

The ordinance included a provision barring private package stores, but not state stores run by the Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, over which municipalities have no control. Once a city or county votes to allow alcohol sales, the ABC can open stores there if the agency decides to do so.

The ABC opted not to open a store in Monroeville, however, and council members amended the alcohol ordinance in April so local merchants who wanted to open liquor stores could do so, officials said.ABC Administrator Emory Folmar said Thursday his agency's surveys showed there was not enough business to support another state store between Jackson and Evergreen, where state stores are located.

"Business doesn't warrant one there," he said. "I'm in the business of selling alcohol, and if another store would increase sales, nothing would make me happier. We looked at it, and concluded a store in Monroeville would only takes sales away from Jackson and Evergreen."

The latest preachers' protests came after word of the amendment spread. Some city residents said several weeks passed before they learned that the council had changed the ordinance and was already considering package store applications.

Local officials explained their decision to a group of clergymen who attended last week's regular City Council meeting.

Controversial or not, the decision to expand alcohol sales may prove to be lucrative. Sales of wine and beer in Monroeville since the 2005 vote have been brisk, according to store managers. Monroeville City Administrator Toni McKelvey said in an interview last week that the fees paid by stores selling beer and wine amounts to some $200,000.

The city has used that money to pay for the Alabama Math and Science Initiative in local schools, for equipment in the hospital, a local playground, improved parking at the community center and a new communications system for law enforcement and city workers.

Three people have applied for licenses to operate package stores, McKelvey said. Two have been approved and one application is expected next week, she said.

Betty Myers, who runs the County Line Store just a few miles from Monroeville, said she plans to make an application soon. The County Line liquor store has operated for decades just inside Conecuh County. Myers said the store is owned by her son-in-law, and the family expects to lose business to stores in town now that package stores are allowed.

Myers plans to build a package store on Drewry Road. She believes there is plenty of business to go around.

"We will offer liquor and mixers, but not much else," Myers said. "I hope we can do business in a quiet, peaceful manner without having to fight the Baptist Church for the chance to open. I've got a lot of customers from Monroeville who have been buying from us for years. We just want to make it more convenient for them."

Ministers such as Miller say such conveniences come with a cost.

"I think we've lost our innocence," Miller said of the town of some 6,800 residents. "It bothers me when children walk through grocery stores and see wine and beer on the shelves. I'm concerned because our council said package stores would not come, but now they are. We are going down a slippery slope. Where are we going to stop?"

<http://www.al.com/news/press-register/index.ssf?/base/news/118215838428840.xml&coll=3&thispage=1>

**grapes  
  
  
  
  
19.** **DUI Ignition law to go into Effect Despite Challenge (Arizona)**

Jessica Coomes  
*Arizona Republic*  
June 21, 2007

A law that requires ignition interlocks for every convicted drunken driver will stand despite recent attempts by lawmakers to repeal the new policy.

"The laws in place have been left alone, and that's how it should be," said Sen. Jim Waring, R-Phoenix, who sponsored the bill signed into law that will require even first-time DUI offenders to have interlocks on their cars for one year.

Rep. John Kavanagh, R-Fountain Hills, last week tried to repeal the new interlock law. He did so by tacking on a repeal amendment to a separate DUI treatment bill sponsored by Sen. Linda Gray, R-Glendale.

Gray, who did not like Kavanagh's amendment, tried to work out a compromise in a conference committee Wednesday afternoon. However, under the pressure of wrapping up the legislative session, a compromise was not reached, and Gray's underlying bill died.

"I'm very disappointed we did not have an opportunity to discuss my reasonable compromise," said Kavanagh, who would have supported letting judges have discretion to order interlocks.

The bill would have allowed an administrative agency to order an interlock for someone accused of an extreme or repeat DUI offense before they have been convicted. It also would have allowed a court to order alcohol monitoring or treatment.

Gray's bill also would have fixed a potential drafting problem with DUI legislation passed earlier the session. Lawmakers intended for judges to be forbidden from suspending time in extreme offenders' jail sentences, but another part of the law conflicts with that requirement.

Waring's original bill, signed by Gov. Janet Napolitano, goes into effect 90 days after the session ends.

<http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/0621leg-dui0620.html>

**grapes****20. No slack for Slackers (California)  
Colleges are revoking admissions for students who may have partied too much their senior year.**

Larry Gordon  
*Los Angeles Times*June 22, 2007

Some high school seniors may have scoffed at warnings about partying instead of studying this spring. But nagging counselors and parents turn out to have been right: A senior-year slump can have painful repercussions.

In June and July, elite universities in California and across the country increasingly are revoking admission offers to students whose grades originally were good enough to gain acceptance but whose final exams and transcripts took a dive into Ds or worse. It's a little-known practice, but it can dump as much as 2% of an incoming class.

For example, UCLA has begun to send out letters informing some students that their "academic record no longer meets the standards for admission." So the coveted acceptances to the freshman class, celebrated just months ago, are withdrawn. Gone. Revoked. Frittered away.

"It can be quite traumatic," Susan Wilbur, director of undergraduate admissions for the UC system, said of the revocations' effect on students and their parents. The early summer timing is especially hard, she said, because by then the student usually has turned down other admissions offers and has few options left at four-year colleges.

But with so many strong applicants previously rejected at competitive campuses, "it is absolutely incumbent upon us to uphold the integrity of the process and maintain the high standards," Wilbur said.

Universities say they are open to appeals about special circumstances, such as an illness or a divorce that affected grades. They may forgive an otherwise stellar student who stumbles in one ambitious course.

And some, especially private universities not bound by state entrance formulas, will allow students to repeat courses in summer school, delay admission for a year or admit them on a probationary basis.

Still, the increasing competition at elite schools is making some institutions less tolerant of senioritis and more willing to eject a student who had already sent in an enrollment deposit, said Barmak Nassirian, associate executive director of the American Assn. of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. "Schools are becoming more stern about that than they were in the past," he said.

"If it is a case of [a student] deciding that 12th grade was a time for merriment, it is hard to cut those kids some slack in these competitive times," he said.

The number of such reversals is not large, but many high schools in Southern California report at least a couple of students worried sick about a final D or F in a required course. UCLA already has revoked about 25 freshman admissions in recent weeks and expects to withdraw about 90 by midsummer as final high school transcripts arrive for its expected 4,600 freshmen, according to Vu T. Tran, director of undergraduate admissions.

Because application deadlines were in November, grades in senior classes are not used in initial admissions decisions, he said.

Still, students are expected to maintain a B average in their senior year and not to score below a C in any of their major courses, especially the ones required for entrance, Tran said.

UCLA reviews each case individually and may show leeway if the trouble is with just one course and there are mitigating factors, he said.

"We are not coldhearted," he stressed. But he too spoke about the need "to be equitable and fair, not only for the students we admitted but also for the ones we denied."

San Diego State is taking a tough stance. Before 1999, the popular campus allowed admitted students to attend summer school if they earned a D or lower in a high school class required by the Cal State system. But no more. Beverly Arata, director of admissions, said she expects to revoke about 2% of the 5,400 who were planning to enroll as freshmen and redirect them to less-crowded Cal State campuses or community colleges.

"It wouldn't be fair to admit an ineligible student," she said.

High school counselors said they often warn students that college acceptances are conditional, based on keeping up their grades. But the message does not always get through. Embarrassed about their predicament, most revoked students are reluctant to discuss it.

A graduate of Lancaster High School recalled how he got a D in advanced placement calculus in the fall of his senior year and then dropped the class for the second semester. As a result, UCLA, his dream school, canceled his acceptance, although UC San Diego, where he just finished his freshman year, did not.

The student, who asked not to be identified, said he is very happy as a biology major at UC San Diego but that he still has some resentment about what happened last spring.

"I don't think that one class should have changed everything," he said.

Another graduate of a Los Angeles-area high school recalled a frighteningly close call last year. Once she was accepted to UC Santa Cruz in April, she slid into senior slackerdom. She skipped classes, went to the beach and blew off homework. The June result was an unshakable D in environmental science.

"That was the class I was least worried about. It later came around and bit me," said the student, who also asked not to be identified. Her parents were extremely upset, and the young woman recalled "freaking out." At her counselor's advice, she confessed to the university before final transcripts were mailed. UC officials threatened her with revocation unless she explained her grade better.

She was honest: "I told them it was my fault, and it was something I would never do again." Because her academic record was otherwise excellent, the campus relented.

UC Santa Cruz officials say that all students whose entrance offer survives such a review are placed on a watch list to monitor their first-year grades.

Now the grateful student, who successfully finished her freshman year, warns friends in high school that "if you get a case of senioritis, don't push it too far."

At San Marino High School, revocations are rare but happen about twice a year. Last year, two students got Ds in senior English and lost their fall spots at Cal Poly Pomona; they first had to attend community college, said Assistant Principal Mary Johnson.

"It's a heartbreak," Johnson said. "But in my own opinion, consequences follow actions all too infrequently in some students' lives. And this is the real thing."

At Eagle Rock High School in Los Angeles, college counselor Stephen Williams recalled a student two years ago whose acceptance to UCLA was revoked because of a D in advanced placement calculus.

After "a bunch of mea culpas," the student landed at Brandeis University in Massachusetts, a school whose previous acceptance he had turned down.

Another counselor at a school in northern Los Angeles County, who asked not to be identified, said one boy had a 3.8 grade-point average and excellent SAT scores but then became so addicted to video games that he failed a couple of classes this month. He lost his admission to Cal State Long Beach and plans to attend a two-year school instead.

"It is major tears," the counselor said of such situations.

Private universities say they can be more flexible than state schools.

USC expects to revoke a handful of freshmen out of an expected class of about 2,900, according to school officials. "A lot of students get senioritis, but very few of them die of it," said Jerry Lucido, USC's vice provost for enrollment policy and management.

Lucido, like other university officials around the country, urges students with late academic troubles to let the colleges know and not to wait until summer transcripts are mailed. "It makes a big difference if students self-report," he said. "We don't want to feel we were led astray in the admission process."

At the University of Pennsylvania, a private Ivy League institution, Dean of Admissions Lee Stetson said his office looks at final transcripts and is more likely to send a warning about declining high school grades than a revocation. Such students usually are told they will be closely watched their freshman year.

Some senioritis is understandable, Stetson said. "If you've already gotten into the school of your choice, it's human nature to let up a little bit. It's only natural. On the other hand, it's the degree, the pattern, that is the issue."

<http://www.latimes.com/news/la-me-revoke22jun22,0,7378930.story?page=1&track=ntothtml&coll=la-tot-topstories>

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21.** **Watsonville Home was Liquor Store for Minors (California)**

Sean Aronson  
*MediaNews*  
June 18, 2007

Police arrested a family suspected of selling alcohol to minors after raiding their home Saturday and finding about 1,000 bottles of premium liquor and hundreds of cases of beer, all worth about $50,000, according to officers.

Police raided the house on the 200 block of Ford Street around 8 a.m. Saturday and found the alcohol stashed throughout the home, Lt. David McCartney said. The cache included Patron tequila and Glenlivet scotch, he said, and also many cases of Dos Equis, Corona and Negra Modelo beer.

"I've been here 20 years and I can't recall ever finding this amount of alcohol in a raid," McCartney said.

Police arrested Manuel Lopez Corrales, 50, and Ed Corrales, 20, at the home. Officers later arrested Irma Corrales, 42, at the police station when she went to pick up her daughter, a minor, who'd been taken to the station with the men. All three face charges of contributing to the delinquency of minors, selling alcohol to minors, conspiracy, burglary and possession of stolen property.

Police said the alcohol was taken from Jalisco restaurant in downtown Watsonville. Irma Corrales worked as a prep cook at the Mexican restaurant, according to police. The owner, Stella Romo, said she believes a few bottles were stolen every weekend for years, making the theft hard to detect.

"We've been noticing some of our inventory missing for three or four years," Romo said. "And when you're a busy restaurant, things can go unaccounted for."

The arrests came as a result of a two-week investigation by Watsonville police that began after neighbors complained of suspicious behavior and high traffic at the Ford Street home. Police got a search warrant after confirming alcohol was sold to minors. Officers would not say how they confirmed the sales.

While the investigation was not complete Saturday, McCartney said police believe the family was selling alcohol from the home for at least two years. Officers think the family was renting the home and were not sure how many minors had purchased alcohol from the house, but there were indications it was many, McCartney said.

While police were confiscating the alcohol, McCartney said a juvenile approached the house looking to buy alcohol. He was told to leave.

Moving the large cache of alcohol proved to be a challenge for police. It was found in closets, the bedroom and a freezer in the garage. Bottles were strewn all over, making it difficult for police to take it all back to the station, McCartney said.

"We had to ask local grocery stores for milk crates to carry all the stuff out of there," McCartney said. They also needed three trucks to bring it all to the police station. The alcohol is being stored in a large garage attached to the station.

McCartney said neighbors were happy to see the arrests.

"We received lots of thumbs up as we loaded the stuff in trucks," he said.

Manuel and Irma Corrales were booked into County Jail on Saturday. Bail was set at $25,000 for both, according to jail staff. Late Saturday, Ed Corrales was awaiting booking, according to jail staff.

grapes<http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_6169159>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**22.** **New plant brews beer the green Way** **(Colorado)**

*9 News*  
June 21, 2007

A new $26 million bottling plant not only produces 700 bottles of beer each minute, it does it while staying green.

The new Fort Collins plant is for New Belgium Brewing, which makes the popular Fat Tire Amber Ale. Since 1991, the company has become the third largest craft brewer in the United States.

However, the plant itself, and not just the beer made inside, is getting a lot of attention.

The brewery uses solar tubes to light the warehouse and desks are made from old Fed-Ex tubes.

The building is made of reclaimed timber.

Kim Jordan, co-founder of New Belgium, says it is part of the company's ground rules.

"(They are) having fun, brewing world class beer, promoting beer culture and being environmental stewards," said Jordan.

Kettles at the plant use 65 percent less energy than standard brew kettles. Spent grain goes to a local cattle farmer and even waste water is not wasted.

"We have bacteria that are doing the cleaning of the waste water. They're consuming the pollutants - giving off a bio-product which is methane rich gas," said Brandon Weaver, the plant's water treatment operator.

That methane gas produces 15 percent of the brewery's energy. The rest of the energy comes from wind.

"We do what we do in terms of environmental best practices because it's deeply meaningful to us," said Jordan.

The environmental practices save the company about $3,000 a month on electricity bills.

<http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=72415>

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**23.** **Area Legions, bars, Restaurants React to Smoking Ban (Minnesota)**

Gail DeBoer  
*Pilot-Independent*  
June 20th, 2007

As of Oct. 1, Minnesota smokers will have very few indoor public places left where they can legally smoke.

The "Freedom to Breathe Act" signed May 17 by Gov. Tim Pawlenty, extends the existing smoking ban to bars, restaurants and other locations. Minnesota is the 20th state to ban smoking in bars and restaurants.

The new law also prohibits smoking at VFW and American Legion clubs, bowling alleys, country club lounges, bingo halls, and in public transportation (buses, trams, taxis, limousines) and transit shelters and terminals.

Private homes and residences, and family farms are exempt, as are private vehicles when not used as a place of employment. Also exempt are hotel or motel sleeping rooms, tobacco product shops, heavy commercial vehicles, farm vehicles and construction equipment, theatrical productions, scientific studies and Native American ceremonies. The state law does not apply to Indian-run casinos.

Proponents are praising the ban as an important public health measure that will save the state money on health care that will more than offset losses in other areas.

The governor called the ban "something whose time has come." Many bar and restaurant owners think a statewide ban will be better than bans imposed by some counties and cities but not others.

**Smoke-free Legions, VFWs**

Walker and Hackensack American Legion Post Commanders Jim Thompson and Chuck Hanson, and VFW Post Commander Dave Grantham of Akeley say they will abide by the law but feel the veterans' clubs should have been exempted.

They also see the ban as an infringement on private property rights and personal freedoms. All sent letters or petitions to local legislators objecting to the ban.

The Walker American Legion just finished an extensive remodeling project with a state-of-the-art, $80,000 ventilation system to remove indoor smoke. The project was under way when the Legislature began debating the new law that ultimately banned indoor smoking.

Thompson is bothered by the fact that Legion members had no say. If club members had voted to go "no smoking" he could have accepted it, he said.

"Lots of ex-military are smokers. You come here to visit with your comrades. What are we gonna do?" he asked rhetorically. "On Oct. 1, you'll find lots of them smoking on the sidewalk. If they stay here."

Grantham predicted many smoker-vets will go to casinos, not the Legion or VFW. Smoking and drinking go together, he added. "They won't sit and drink in a place when they can't smoke there."

At all three Clubs, the majority of members and almost all employees are smokers.

The commanders are sure bar revenue will drop and also charitable gambling proceeds from pulltabs or bingo. Those profits are donated to local charities and groups, and also to veterans and active duty troops.

Citing state Gambling Control Board statistics, Grantham said charitable gambling receipts have dropped in every city and county hit by a smoking ban. In Duluth, when January 2007 was compared to January 2006, receipts were down 15 percent, on top of a 19 percent drop the year before.

Hanson said high gas prices and snowless winters already have cut revenues at the Hackensack Legion by up to 30 percent.

"And now this. [The ban] probably couldn't have happened at a worse time," he said.

While the initial hit will be bad, Hanson hopes the state will modify the ban when it sees how much it will lose in liquor and cigarette taxes and charitable gambling fees.

**On-sale, charitable gaming**

At the Hackensack Municipal On-Sale Bar, manager Jeannie Berg-Skeesick hasn't come up with an option for handling the smoking ban.

"As of Oct. 1, people can't smoke, and we don't have an area to go, except out on the sidewalk."

But customers who step outside to smoke can't, by law, take their drinks with them. She estimated 90 percent of bar patrons smoke, as do most employees. Berg expects the ban will be discussed at the next city council meeting.

With their charitable gambling operation located at the municipal bar, the Hackensack Lions will also be affected.

Lions gambling manager Pat Fisher acknowledges the ban will have a negative impact on pulltab sales that generate money the Lions give to local charities and groups.

He stressed that the Lions are not taking an official stance opposing the ban, because they are aware of the health effects of smoking.

"That being said, it doesn't mean we're not concerned; it's a tough issue," Fisher said. He noted that pulltabs aren't as lucrative as they once were, and that the Lions are looking for other ways to raise money and promote pulltabs.

**Restaurant, bar owners**

Conversations with randomly-chosen restaurant and bar owners found most resigned to the smoking ban, and one who welcomes it.

In Hackensack, Cindy Paulsen of Lucette's Pizza and Pub has heard from customers who are happy about the ban and ones who aren't.

"I'm going to wait and see what happens. I want to learn more about the ordinance," she said.

At the River House Restaurant, owner Marilyn Dascher declared, "The law's the law! Effective Oct. 1, smoking won't be allowed in here. "

Fortunately, the River House has an open patio where smokers can go; although it may not be very hospitable in mid-winter.

She noted a few employees are still disgruntled about the ban. "We even wrote letters; but the law's been passed."

At the Lucky Moose Bar and Grill in Walker, co-owner Dawn Anderson said she and her staff will follow the smoking ban but commented, "I'm tired of government being in my life all the time. But we don't have a choice."

Anderson wished there had been "a level playing field" and that casinos weren't exempt from the ban.

"I'm not happy about it, but I'm sure it will be fine and will all blow over. But initially, and in the winter — it'll be tough going."

Theo Ringle, owner of Benson's Eating & Drinking Emporium in Walker, doesn't smoke and supports the ban.

"There are lots more issues than just the health of workers and customers," he declared. "There's the smell. Smoke penetrates paint on the walls, even the woodwork. It gets into air conditioners and refrigerator compressors. It shortens the life of all our equipment. Personally, I'm in favor of the ban."

Ringle wasn't sure how the ban will affect business. Some businesses have done better once they went smoke-free, while others haven't, he said. He added that he was glad the county and city didn't pass smoking bans a few years ago.

"At least everybody's in the same boat now, except for the casino. I'm all for it; extremely glad. If I lose some money, so be it. There could be savings in terms of equipment, my life, and my employees' lives."

<http://www.walkermn.com/placed/index.php?sect_rank=1&story_id=233644>

**grapes****24. Beer bears new Warning Labels (New York)**

Leah McDonald  
*Oneida Dispatch*  
June 19, 2007

Three Oneida high school juniors are taking a stand against underage drinking.

Cassie Meltzer, Emily King and Cody Chambers spent Mondayafternoon labeling hundreds of cases of beer at the Price Chopper in Oneida to remind adults and teens alike that underage drinking is illegal and punishable by the law.

The three are members of SWAT (Students Working for Alcohol Truths), a group created by BRiDGES, Madison County Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse.

"I think it's a really good program," said Chambers, who is participating in the Sticker Shock program developed by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) in an effort to educate the public on alcohol and teens. "I think it's one other thing to help the community."

"We would like to get rid of underage drinking altogether," added Meltzer. "Especially with graduation coming up."

The stickers have the logo "Underage Drinking: Not a minor problem" written in bold, colorful letters, and have a warning that serving alcohol to minors is illegal and can result in a one year sentence in jail and/or a $1,000 fine.

Joe Guidera, co-manager of the store, said that while Price Chopper employees are very careful about who they sell alcohol to, what adults do with the drinks after they leave the store is something he can't control.

"They shouldn't give it to a minor," he said. "They should set a good example."

And that's exactly what he said the three teens from the high school were doing: setting a good example.

"I think it's a good thing that the kids are going out themselves for the high school, setting a good example for other kids and the community," he said.

"I think it's been wonderful for the students to see they're so supported by the community," said advisor Maureen Campanie of BRiDGES.

She said the students would most likely use only half of their thousand stickers, but would continue the campaign Thursday morning at the P&C in Cazenovia.

"If we can just stop one person from drinking when they're not supposed to, then the whole purpose of this is worth it," said King.

<http://www.oneidadispatch.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=18492068&BRD=1709&PAG=461&dept_id=68844&rfi=6>

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25.** **Officials Applaud More State Liquor Inspectors (New York)**

Liz Rhoades *Queen's Chronicle*  
June 14, 2007

Two Queens elected officials are cheering the decision by the State Liquor Authority to designate six new investigators for New York City.

In May, Assemblyman Rory Lancman (D-Fresh Meadows) and City Councilman Tony Avella (D-Bayside) held a joint press conference calling for the liquor authority to provide increased enforcement. They were concerned that lack of inspections was leading to increased crime and safety issues in Flushing area bars.

The two elected officials noted that the state had allocated additional funds to hire nine new inspectors this year and wanted them to be used in New York City. They sent a letter with the request to Josh Toas, chief executive officer of the State Liquor Authority.

The state responded by providing six of the nine inspectors to the city. Prior to that, there were nine inspectors who covered the entire downstate area including Nassau and Westchester counties and the five boroughs.

The new inspectors will be part of the Rapid Enforcement Unit, which conducts priority investigations and provides quick disciplinary action in the case of repeat violations.

"I salute the State Liquor Authority for understanding the need for greater enforcement of the laws in place to protect the quality of life and safety of communities where there are bars and clubs," Lancman said.

Avella believes the additional manpower is a major step toward improving the quality of life in communities. "It is important to protect all New Yorkers from the disturbances and dangers that stem from bars that violate SLA laws and these additional inspectors will help us accomplish just that," he added.

At last month's press conference, Lancman showed printouts of dozens of Flushing bars that had received violations and yet remained in business. Many were repeat offenders such as the Rulu & Rala Club on Depot Road, which had received nine violations for fire, building and other safety issues.

"There has been a lack of adequate enforcement," Lancman said. "Bars that break the law are not being closed down."

Most of the bars are located on or near Northern Boulevard, adjacent to residential neighborhoods. Local groups, including the Broadway-Flushing Homeowners Association, said the situation has gotten worse over the years as the bars have proliferated.

Residents of 157th Street complain that the bars make it difficult for them to find parking and that bar patrons engage in pubic urination and intercourse in front of their homes. The situation only gets worse in the summer, they say.

The elected officials and residents believe it will take a joint effort between the state agency and the city Department of Buildings and Fire Department to stop the violations in the bars and get the offending ones closed.

grapes<http://www.zwire.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=18474910&BRD=2731&PAG=461&dept_id=575596&rfi=6>  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**26.** **Town Mistakenly bans beer Everywhere (New York)**

*Rocky Mountain News*  
June 20, 2007

This sleepy Finger Lakes town, which does not lay claim to any actual lakefront, misses much of the tourism that helps support the picturesque region.

Agriculture is the main industry here in this dot of a town of 1,800, where drivers have to yield to roosters that wander onto the road.

There are no bars or liquor stores, but the town does have three restaurants and one small grocery, which has long sold beer, lots of beer.

Residents say that nearly two years ago they made a sobering mistake that has bedeviled them ever since. While trying to grant one of the restaurants permission to serve beer and wine with meals, voters unwittingly banned the sale of all alcohol in the town's 37 square miles.

"It got all screwed up," said Katie Brown, the manager of Federal Hollow Staples, a grocery owned by her father, Frederick Brown, that was the first in town to get a liquor license, more than 30 years ago, and now relies on beer sales for 78 percent of its annual revenue. "We're a farming town, you know?"

Since that 2005 vote, some townspeople have tried repeatedly to reverse the ban before Federal's license expires on July 1 and the town effectively becomes dry again. A second referendum, in 2006, asked for permission to sell hard liquor, which residents approved — only to hear later from state officials that the new law did nothing to undo the ban.

A letter-writing campaign ensued, and the state Legislature recently passed a law extending Brown's liquor license through November, and allowing the town to put the first proposal back before the voters this fall, waiving the state restriction that says a municipality must wait three years between such votes.

Christine Pritchard, a spokeswoman for Gov. Eliot Spitzer, would not say whether the governor would sign the bill. "We'll review the legislation when it is delivered to our office for consideration," she said on Monday.

Before the mix-up, people here could buy beer in two places, the Federal Hollow and the Hitchin' Rail, a combination convenience store, ice cream stand and restaurant.

Owners of the Hitchin' Rail, a fixture here for decades, wanted to add wine and beer to the menu at the restaurant, where hearty meat loaf and pot roast entrees top out at $8.95.

It was not as simple as it seemed. state alcoholic beverage control laws require that whenever a town wants to expand the way it sells alcohol, it must ask voters five questions — "stupid questions," according to the town supervisor, Leonard Lisenbee, a retired federal game warden who has been in office six years and who characterized the state-mandated wording as post-Prohibition-era legalese.

The questions, requiring more than 300 words, ask whether alcohol should be allowed in a variety of settings, including a hotel and, separately, a "summer hotel." "Shall any person be authorized to sell alcoholic beverages at retail to be consumed on premises licensed pursuant to the provisions of Section 64 of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law?" was the relevant one to the Hitchin' Rail. But there was also "Shall any person be authorized to sell alcoholic beverages at retail, not to be consumed on the premises, where sold in the town of Potter?" which relates to stores like the Federal Hollow.

"I read it and I couldn't understand it, and I've got a college education," Lisenbee said. "When voters get confused, they vote no."

And they did.

The voters said no to all five questions, not only keeping the Hitchin' Rail's restaurant from serving beer and wine, but also blocking both stores from selling it, upon the expiration of their current licenses. Which means that on July 1, when the Federal's license expires, the closest six-pack available for purchase will be in a town 10 miles away.

The Hitchin' Rail has already had to pull the beer from its convenience store, because its liquor license expired when a new owner, David Spampinato, took over last year.

"It really created a lot of hostility in this small town," said Spampinato, who bought the Hitchin' Rail between the 2005 and 2006 votes and has seen total revenue drop by a third since the beer ban. Despite the 2006 referendum, no one has stepped up to sell hard liquor.

The Browns returned to door-knocking, encouraging people to write to their legislators. State Sen. George H. Winner Jr., a Republican from Elmira, whose district includes Potter, said letters pleading for help began to pour in, so he sponsored the bill providing the waiver and extension. "It's extraordinarily unusual," Winner said of the endeavor.

The Browns said they were confident that voters would understand the proposition this third time around and pass it.

"This is the only place where you can buy beer close to home," said Bryan Brink, 32, who was among those to vote no on the first ballot and then regret it, as he stopped by the Federal Hollow on Saturday to buy a six-pack of Killian's Irish Red.

Another customer, Ron Chapin, 45, picked up a six-pack of Labatt Ice on his way to visit his brother. "Why would somebody want to make this a dry community?" he asked as he stood in the summer sun. "It'd be a bummer."

<http://www.rockymountainnews.com/drmn/nation/article/0,1299,DRMN_16_5594553,00.html>

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 **27.** **AWOL Devices Banned in North Carolina (North Carolina)**

*Earned Media*  
June 21, 2007

Alcohol inhalers, popularized in Europe and marketed in the United States as "the ultimate party toy" since 2004, are now banned in North Carolina -- thanks to a new law that should send a Greensboro business packing.

Senate Bill 125 - Alcohol Inhalers Illegal, approved by the General Assembly yesterday (June 20), makes it unlawful to inhale fumes for the purpose of intoxication, or to manufacture, sell, give, deliver, possess or use an alcohol vaporizing device. It also makes it illegal to possess or sell ethyl alcohol for the purpose of inhaling.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Steve Goss (D-45th) with companion House legislation introduced by fellow Democrat Pryor Gibson (69th District), came about as a result of a request from the Christian Action League of North Carolina.

The Rev. Mark Creech, the CAL's executive director, said he learned about the dangers of AWOL (alcohol without liquid) machines at the American Council on Alcohol Problems annual convention in Salt Lake City, Utah, in September 2006. His concern grew when he learned that the machines being sold all over the United States were coming out of North Carolina -- from Greensboro-based Spirit Partners Inc.

In January, Creech went to Senate leaders asking for a ban, and was thrilled when the Goss and Gibson bills were introduced.

"More than a third of young people begin drinking by eighth grade and 5 million U.S. high school students binge drink at least once a month," Creech said. "With these kinds of alcohol abuse statistics staring us in the face, imagine what would happen if users could fast track the mind-altering effects of alcohol and, at the same time, sidestep the hangover.... That's exactly the appeal of AWOL.

"It is not complimentary of the great State of North Carolina that this new scourge for alcohol abuse is being marketed from within our own borders."

Sen. Goss noted: "The passage of the Alcohol Inhalers or AWOL bill is a significant step forward by our state in fighting the terrible dangers and results of alcohol abuse. The AWOL machine is dangerous in that it is marketed to appeal to youth and college students and its demise in North Carolina is an answer to prayer by me and many other North Carolinians. I am especially grateful to Rev. Mark Creech and The Christian Action League of North Carolina for bringing the existence of these machines to my attention. It has been a privilege partnering with them in the ongoing battle against the dangers of alcohol."

Rep. Gibson echoed similar sentiments, saying: "I am a strong opponent of alcohol abuse and these devices are clearly abusing intoxicants. We are very fortunate that our General Assembly understands the balance of personal rights (for those adults who wish to drink) and the exploitation of addiction of alcohol....this was an easy decision for our body. It sends a clear message that we will be responsible and diligent in alcohol control."

The device, invented by British entrepreneur Dominic Simler with a patent pending in the United States, consists of an oxygen generator and a hand-held vaporizer. The user pours his or her favorite spirit (an 80-proof liquor is what the AWOL marketers recommend) into the machine which is mixed with the oxygen to produce a mist that is inhaled through the mouth, allowing alcohol to enter the bloodstream through the lungs and go straight to the brain.

While AWOL marketers say the effects are the same as from drinking alcohol "only milder," many medical experts disagree, describing intoxication as quick and intense.

As of April 2007, the alcohol vaporizing devices had been banned in twenty-two states. But North Carolina’s law has a potential national impact in that it will make it illegal for Spirit Partners to continue to sell the AWOL devices, which it does now, via several Web sites.

"Once the law takes effect, they will have to give up those machines in North Carolina or move on to another state," Creech said.

The Raleigh-based Christian Action League of North Carolina, Inc. is a Christian public policy organization that addresses social, moral and ethical issues from a Christian worldview. The Christian Action League has been in existence in the Tar Heel State since the 1930s and currently represents conservative evangelical churches from 15 denominations.<http://www.earnedmedia.org/cal0621.htm>

**grapes****28. State Liquor Agency Chooses new Director (Utah)**

Lisa Riley Roche  
*Deseret Morning News*   
June 21, 2007

It took only a few minutes Wednesday for the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission to choose a new executive director - longtime operations manager Dennis Kellen.

Kellen, who was unanimously approved by the commission to replace retiring executive director Ken Wynn, still must be approved by Gov. Jon Huntsman Jr. before taking over the agency that controls liquor sales in Utah.

There was little discussion about filling the position during the brief special meeting, but afterward, two commissioners told the Deseret Morning News they were disappointed there hadn't been a formal search.

"I didn't want to vote against Dennis, but I was not comfortable with the lack of process," commissioner Kathryn Balmforth said. "It's an important state office, and there ought to be some sort of open, objective process for filling it."

Commissioner Nicholas Hales said there should have been a national search, but commission chairman Larry Lunt wanted to go ahead and appoint Kellen. Both Balmforth and Hales, however, said they believed that Kellen would have emerged from a search as the best candidate.

Kellen, 64, was appointed as the department's director in 1975 by former Gov. Cal Rampton, a position he held for about a year before a new commission chose a new boss. Wynn took the job nearly 30 years ago and announced recently he was ready to retire.

Change will come to the department "only as needed," Kellen said. "I have some thoughts. But I will be slow to implement them and make sure we do them right." He said he is a more "hands-on" person than Wynn.

Another difference between Kellen and Wynn is that Kellen drinks alcohol. Currently, four of the five commissioners don't consume liquor. Kellen said that having been involved "in the tasting of the products, I hope I have something more to add."

Also on Wednesday, one of Huntsman's three new appointments to the beverage control commission was confirmed by the Senate.

The vote came the day after members of the Senate Business and Labor Confirmation Committee unanimously recommended the confirmation of Salt Lake food distributor Sam Granato.

The governor's two other choices to serve on the commission that regulates liquor sales in the state, Park City lawyer Gordon Strachan and retired Cache Chamber president and CEO Bobbie Bicknell Coray, will have to wait until next month to be considered by the Senate.

That's because of a quirk in a bill passed last session making a number of technical changes to Utah's liquor laws, including a mandate that only two new appointments can be made in a single budget year.

"It's all a logistical puzzle that must be fit together," Huntsman spokeswoman Lisa Roskelley said. But not one that should create any problems even though only three of the five commission slots will be filled for a few weeks.

The commission meets monthly, mainly to consider issuing licenses to serve alcohol and taking action against restaurants, private clubs and other licensees that violate the state's liquor laws by, for example, serving minors.

The commission's next regular meeting is June 29, the day before the terms of commissioners Lunt, Hales and Budd expire.

Huntsman, who has advocated relaxing the state's liquor laws by allowing private clubs to do away with memberships, decided to replace all three. The governor's office said the change was made because the three already had served multiple terms.

Granato, owner of the Frank Granato Importing Co., was asked by the committee about difficulties in getting a second liquor store for fast-growing Washington County. The DABC Commission only recently approved the purchase of land for a new state store in St. George.

"They are very much underserved," said Sen. Jon Greiner, R- Ogden, who as head of the Executive Appropriations subcommittee over the department told department officials earlier this year that they needed to take action.

And Sen. Bill Hickman, R-St. George, said there had been a "real hesitation" to meet the needs of his constituents. Hickman said he hoped Granato would make sure the commission is adequately serving all communities.

"There are a lot of forces in play in this state, particularly in that area," Hickman said. "I have every confidence you'll be able to weigh the forces that are at play and be able to serve the community that wants to be served and protected the state as well."

Granato described the commission as a policy enforcer. "I don't have any hidden agendas," he said. "I am not that familiar with what's gone on in the past."  
  
<http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,680192729,00.html>

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**29.** **'Beer-sicles' Grab Regulators' Attention (Virginia)**

*News 8*  
June 20, 2007

It might be one of the great alcoholic innovations of the 21st century - the frozen beer pop, served by an Alexandria (website - news) restaurateur and bar owner in a variety of sizes and flavors like "Raspbeer-y" and "Fudgesicle." But state regulators say the beer-sicles run afoul of rules governing the serving and pouring of beer.

The story of the frozen beer pop began last week at Rustico Restaurant, where executive chef Frank Morales began selling the frozen treats to customers looking for a more adult way to beat the heat.

After weeks of testing several hundred beer varieties to find flavors that taste good on a stick, Rustico finally settled on three flavors: "Raspbeer-y," made with a Belgian, fruit-style beer; "Plum," made from a Belgian Lambic brew; and the "Fudgesicle," made with a stout with bittersweet chocolate undertones. He plans to offer other flavors on a rotating basis.

The beer pops sell for $4 in the six-ounce size, shaped like a traditional Popsicle, and $6 for a larger "beer cone."

The company put out a press release, and an Associated Press reporter placed a call to the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, asking whether a frozen beer would pose any regulatory problems.

Philip Disharoon, special agent in charge of the Alexandria division of the Virginia ABC, said beer must be served in its original container, or served immediately to a customer once it is poured from its original container.

"If we're talking about taking a beer and pouring it from a bottle or a keg into some sort of mold and freezing it, then that product is not legal," Disharoon said. He planned to send an agent to investigate.

Amber Pfau, a spokeswoman for the restaurant, said Tuesday that the restaurant's beer manager, Greg Engert, was researching ways to ensure that the beer pops comply with Virginia regulations.

The products are 100 percent frozen beer; Pfau said they might change the recipe or change how the pops are served to bring them into compliance.

But Disharoon said he could not envision a way in which beer pops could be legal. Altering the recipe would not make a difference, he said, because the rules are designed to ensure that regulators can track the beer.

"I would have no way of knowing where the beer product came from," he said.

Pfau said the restaurant staff is confident that the beer pop will survive regulatory scrutiny. Many of the restaurant's menu items are prepared with beer, and they don't see how the beer pop is any different.

"We are still going ahead with the beer pops," she said.

<http://www.newschannel8.net/news/stories/0607/432724.html>

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**30.** **Wash. Twp. Liquor Sales Referendum Petition Fails (Washington)**

Meg Huelsman  
*Courier-Post*  
June 21, 2007

A petition to allow local voters to decide whether liquor should be sold in township supermarkets fell 22 signatures short of the requirement to get the issue on the November ballot, the township clerk's office said Wednesday.

The petition also was rejected because the signatures were submitted on two different days instead of one, as required by law, clerk Jennica Bileci ruled.

The rulings prompted a renewed effort by the petitioners to get the required number of signatures within the next 10 days, as allowed by state law.

"We're going to go through the petition and see what (signatures) were wrong, double check them, and go and get more signatures," said Jennifer Wintemberg, who lives in the Sewell section of the township. "It's the point of allowing the people to have a say. We elect these people (township council) to represent us, but we don't allow them to dictate over us. This law would change the structure of the town. The people have a right to decide."

The issue has been the subject of heated debate since the township council introduced the ordinance in March and voted 3-2 in May to allow the sales in hopes of generating minimum bids of $600,000 for each liquor license it sells.

Former Republican Councilman Stephen Altamuro, who helped draft the petition, chafed at the clerk's ruling that the petition was invalid because it was submitted on two separate days. He said there was some confusion about the deadline.

A first batch of about 1,800 signatures was submitted on Friday, June 1, the date the petitioners thought was the deadline.

After township solicitor John Eastlack determined Monday, June 4, was the actual deadline, about 500 additional signatures were submitted.

"I think they should take this pile and that pile and just push them together," Altamuro said. "They are going to reject the voters because they handed them in as two stacks instead of one? What's the point?"

A valid petition must contain signatures from 15 percent of residents who voted in the previous general election, or 1,966 signatures. The clerk ruled more than 300 signatures were invalid, which brought the total to 1,944 valid signatures.

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**31.** **Woman Ties Blood Alcohol Record Of 0.50 (Washington)**

*CBS News*  
June 21, 2007

A Pierce County woman apparently tied a record for the amount of alcohol in her blood when the Washington State Patrol toxicology lab measured a blood-alcohol content of 0.50 two hours after she was arrested for investigation of drunken driving.

Ann Marie Gordon, manager of the lab in Seattle, said the reading \_ more than six times the legal limit of 0.08 \_ tied the highest level ever found by technicians at the patrol's lab. A King County driver also registered 0.50 on a blood test in 2000, Gordon said.

"It certainly would kill many people," she said.

The average blood-alcohol content of drunken drivers stopped in Washington is about 0.15, Gordon added.

Rebecca G. Lingbloom, 45, pleaded not guilty Wednesday to one count of driving under the influence of alcohol on May 10. Authorities contended in an affidavit that she nearly hit a pedestrian that day and was seen swerving all over the road.

A Pierce County sheriff's deputy later found her passed out behind the wheel of her car in the Summit area, the affidavit states.

Deputy Prosecutor Bradley Moericke pointed out that Lingbloom was arrested for investigation of drunken driving twice in the 1990s, and asked District Court Judge Frank Dacca to jail her in lieu of $20,000 bail. Moericke also asked that Lingbloom be monitored with an electronic bracelet that would record her movements should she make bail.

Dacca declined both requests after Lingbloom told him she enrolled in a six-month treatment program for alcohol abuse not long after her arrest. Public defender Clarence Henderson told the judge he called the clinic before Wednesday's hearing and confirmed that Lingbloom was enrolled.

Dacca said he didn't want to jeopardize Lingbloom's treatment by sending her to jail. He did require that she continue her program and report to court July 24 for another hearing.  
  
<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/06/21/ap/strange/main2964897.shtml>

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**32.** **Wyoming Officials Welcome new DUI laws set for July (Wyoming)**

*Associated Press*  
June 20, 2007

New Wyoming laws making it illegal to have open containers of alcohol in moving vehicles and imposing tougher penalties on drunken drivers go into effect July first.

Officials say they expect the laws will reduce highway deaths in the state, but some say even more needs to be done to address drunken driving here.

Lt. Col. Jess Oyler, with the Wyoming Highway Patrol in Cheyenne, said his agency handled 59 crashes involving drugs or alcohol last year. Those crashes resulted in 66 deaths, of which 61 were people not wearing seat belts. He said the patrol issued 1,342 citations for driving under the influence last year.

“Often times, if there’s alcohol involvement during a fatality, we see open containers sometimes at the scene of a crash,” Oyler said. “Anything we can do to enhance the DUI laws to aid enforcement and provide a safer environment for highway safety, I support 100 percent.”

Sen. Tony Ross, R-Cheyenne, had sponsored bills seeking to ban open containers of alcohol in moving vehicles in the state for several years before finally seeing the legislation pass this spring.

“It’s going to mean that we’re going to see a decrease, hopefully, in alcohol-related deaths on the road,” Ross said of the open-container ban.

Although some Wyoming municipalities already had outlawed open containers of alcohol by ordinance, Wyoming Attorney General Pat Crank said Ross’s bill is an important step for the state.

“The open container was probably the big one, and that’s just a long time coming,” Crank said. “Tony Ross fought for years to get that passed, and it’s a good addition to Wyoming law.”

“If you can drive around with an open container, I think it just increases the number of people who are going to be over the legal limit,” Crank said.

Ross also authored the law that goes into effect July 1 requiring jail terms of up to one year on a first conviction of driving under the influence with a child passenger. A second conviction could mean up to five years in prison.

“The child endangerment bill was and is a voice for those people who don’t have a voice,” Ross said. “We’re talking about young children who are put into a vehicle and really don’t have a say about that.”

Ross said the child endangerment bill also can allow for intervention by the state Department of Family Services to help families troubled by alcoholism.

**Felony Charges**

Another law hitting the books July 1 authorizes felony charges for drunken drivers who severely injure someone in a crash.

Sen. John Hines, R-Gillette, sponsored that legislation this spring.

“Previously it was just a misdemeanor, regardless of how serious the injuries were,” Hines said this March. “A person could be crippled forever, lose a limb, and it was still just a misdemeanor.”

John Cox, director of the Wyoming Department of Transportation, said he supports any move to crack down on drunken driving.

Under Wyoming’s previous open container law, passengers were allowed to have open containers of alcohol in moving vehicles on the state’s highways, but drivers weren’t. The law has been difficult for police to enforce because of the need to prove who in the vehicle had been drinking.

“My perspective is that it does take a large step forward in increasing the margin of safety,” Cox said of the new open container ban. “Because it takes an open container law that was virtually unenforceable, and makes it very enforceable come July first.”

**Seat Belts**

In the future, Cox said he believes that Wyoming eventually will have to consider amending its seat belt law. Under the current law, police can’t pull over drivers they see who aren’t wearing seat belts, but can cite drivers for not wearing their belts if they’re pulled over for some other offense.

“There was a time when the primary killer in Wyoming was alcohol involvement in crashes,” Cox said. But he said that over the last couple of decades, the rate of alcohol-involved fatalities has dropped significantly and in some years has fallen below the national average.

“Today, the big killer on Wyoming’s highways is not buckling up,” Cox said.

Cox said Wyoming lawmakers are also going to have to consider what to do about people who drive while using their cell phones or sending text messages. “That’s really the functional equivalent of reading a novel, and responding to it, while trying to perform the driving function,” he said.

Lorrie Pozarik, facilitator for the governor’s council on impaired driving, said she expects the council this summer will consider whether to recommend to Gov. Dave Freudenthal that the state enact legislation requiring drug and alcohol testing of all drivers involved in crashes that result in death or serious bodily injury.

“That’s one area where we have very inconsistent data,” Pozarik said. “The coroners are fairly consistent in testing the people who have died. However, there’s a lot of inconsistency in the testing of surviving drivers.”

With mandatory testing, Pozarik said, “we would have a much more complete picture of the severity and the magnitude of the problem.”

Pozarik said the council may also consider whether to recommend the governor endorse legislation that would allow people to be convicted of driving while intoxicated if tests find their blood-alcohol level exceeds the state limit within three hours of the time they operated a motor vehicle. A bill to do that failed this spring.

Drivers are often taken into custody in rural areas where it can take hours to transport them to testing facilities, Pozarik said. Under the current system, she said state toxicologists are required to travel around the state to testify about what a driver’s blood alcohol level was at the time they were actually driving.

Pozarik said the new laws on open containers and child endangerment should heighten the public’s awareness of the issue.

“Everything we can do to separate drinking from driving, those are good things to do,” Pozarik said. “There’s nothing wrong with drinking for most people, there’s nothing wrong with driving. They need to not be done at the same time.”

<http://www.gillettenewsrecord.com/articles/2007/06/16/news/news07.txt>

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